

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (Previously Presented) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium comprising:
 - a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit;
 - a partition management information region; and
 - a partition region, wherein
 - an information on a start position of the partition region is recorded in the partition management information region,
 - the start position information includes a value at which a predetermined region is secured between a terminal end of the partition management information region and a starting end of the partition region, and
 - the region secured between the terminal end of the partition management information region and the starting end of the partition region is larger than the first size and is in a state where data is physically erased.

2. (Previously Presented) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium comprising:
 - a partition management information region;
 - a first partition region; and
 - a second partition region located after the first partition region; wherein
 - a single address space includes a first address value corresponding to the beginning of the first partition region, a second address value corresponding to the terminal end of the first

partition region, and a third address value corresponding to the beginning of the second partition region;

the first and third address values are recorded in the partition management information region;

the second and third address values are not consecutive, and are separated by at least three consecutive address values corresponding to a switch region located between the first and second partition regions; and

the switch region is physically erased.

3. (Previously Presented) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium comprising:

a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being of a first size and physically erasable as a single unit; wherein

information is recorded according to a recording format of a predetermined file system, a region which is not used for the recording is larger than the first size and is included in the recording format of the file system, and

the region which is not used for the recording is in a state where data is physically erased.

4. (Previously Presented) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium comprising:

a partition management information region;

and a partition containing a FAT file system; wherein

an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region;

the partition comprises a partition boot information region and a file allocation table region;

an information on a plural number of reserved sectors, the reserved sectors being positioned in the partition between the partition boot information region and a starting end of the file allocation table region, is recorded in the partition boot information region; and

the region secured between the terminal end of the partition boot information region and the starting end of the file allocation table region is in a state where data is physically erased.

5. (Currently Amended) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium comprising:
a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit;

a partition management information region; and
a partition containing a UDF file system, wherein
an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region,

the partition comprises a partition descriptor information region and a space bit map region,

an information on a start position of the space bit map region is recorded in the partition descriptor information region,

the start position information includes a value at which a predetermined region of a plurality of memory blocks larger than the first size included in the partition is secured prior to a starting end of the space bit map region, and

the region secured prior to the starting end of the space bit map region is in a state where data is physically erased.

6. (Previously Presented) A non-volatile semiconductor recording medium in which information is recorded according to a recording format of FAT file system, wherein a user data region comprising a plurality of clusters and a file allocation table region are included in the FAT file system;

an information on a state of each cluster in the user data region is recorded in the file allocation table region;

the file allocation table region indicates that a continuous series of at least three clusters each has a state value indicating a cluster is not to be written to because it is a defective cluster, a reserved cluster, or an already-used cluster; and

a region of the user data region corresponding to the continuous series of at least three clusters is physically erased.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, said recording medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein

a partition management information region and a partition region are set in the recording medium;

an information on a start position of the partition region is recorded in the partition management information region, and a value at which a predetermined region is secured between

a terminal end of the partition management information region and a starting end of the partition region is recorded as the start position information; and

the region secured between the terminal end of the partition management information region and the starting end of the partition region is larger than the first size and is in a state where data is physically erased.

8. (Previously Presented) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, wherein

a partition management information region, a first partition region, and a second partition region located after the first partition region are set in the recording medium;

a single address space includes a first address value corresponding to the beginning of the first partition region, a second address value corresponding to the terminal end of the first partition region, and a third address value corresponding to the beginning of the second partition region;

the first and third address values are recorded in the partition management information region;

the second and third address values are not consecutive, and are separated by at least three consecutive address values corresponding to a switch region located between the first and second partition regions; and

the switch region is physically erased.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium according to a predetermined file system, said recording

medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein

 a region which is not used for the recording is larger than the first size and is set in a recording format of the file system in the recording medium of non-volatile semiconductor, and
 the region which is not used for the recording is in a state where data is physically erased.

10. (Previously Presented) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, wherein

 a partition management information region and a partition containing a FAT file system are set in the recording medium;

 an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region;

 the partition comprises a partition boot information region and a file allocation table region,

 an information on a plural number of reserved sectors, the reserved sectors being positioned in the partition between the partition boot information region and a starting end of the file allocation table region, is recorded in the partition boot information region, and

 the region secured between the terminal end of the partition boot information region and the starting end of the file allocation table region is in a state where data is physically erased.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, said recording medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein

a partition management information region and a partition containing a UDF file system are set in the recording medium;

an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region;

the partition comprises a partition descriptor information region and a space bit map region;

an information on a start position of the space bit map region is recorded in the partition descriptor information region, and a value at which a predetermined region of a plurality of ~~memory blocks larger than the first size~~ included in the partition is secured prior to a starting end of the space bit map region is recorded as the start position information; and

the region secured prior to the starting end of the space bit map region is in a state where data is physically erased.

12. (Previously Presented) A method of recording information in a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium according to a recording format of FAT file system, wherein a user data region comprising a plurality of clusters and a file allocation table region are included in the FAT file system;

an information on a state of each cluster in the user data region is recorded in the file allocation table region, the file allocation table region indicates that a continuous series of at least three clusters each has a state value indicating a cluster is not to be written to because it is a defective cluster, a reserved cluster, or an already-used cluster; and

a region of the user data region corresponding to the continuous series of at least three clusters is physically erased.

13. (Previously Presented) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, said recording medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein

- a partition management information region and a partition region are set in the recording medium;
- an information on a start position of the partition region is recorded in the partition management information region;
- the start position information includes a value at which a predetermined region is secured between a terminal end of the partition management information region and a starting end of the partition region; and
- the region secured between the terminal end of the partition management information region and the starting end of the partition region is larger than the first size and is in a state where data is physically erased.

14. (Previously Presented) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, wherein

- a partition management information region, a first partition region, and a second partition region located after the first partition region are set in the recording medium;
- a single address space includes a first address value corresponding to the beginning of the first partition region, a second address value corresponding to the terminal end of the first partition region, and a third address value corresponding to the beginning of the second partition region;

the first and third address values are recorded in the partition management information region;

the second and third address values are not consecutive, and are separated by at least three consecutive address values corresponding to a switch region located between the first and second partition regions; and

the switch region is physically erased.

15. (Previously Presented) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium in recording information according to a predetermined file system, said recording medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein

a region which is not used for the recording is larger than the first size and is set in a recording format of the file system in the recording medium of non-volatile semiconductor, and the region which is not used for the recording is in a state where data is physically erased.

16. (Previously Presented) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, wherein

a partition management information region and a partition containing a FAT file system are set in the recording medium;

an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region;

the partition comprises a partition boot information region and a file allocation table region;

an information on a plural number of reserved sectors, the reserved sectors being positioned in the partition between the partition boot information region and a starting end of the file allocation table region, is recorded in the partition boot information region; and the region secured between the terminal end of the partition boot information region and the starting end of the file allocation table region is in a state where data is physically erased.

17. (Currently Amended) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium, said recording medium comprising a plurality of erasing blocks, each erasing block being a first size and physically erasable as a single unit, wherein a partition management information region and a partition containing a UDF file system are set in the recording medium,

an information on a start position of the partition is recorded in the partition management information region,

the partition comprises a partition descriptor information region and a space bit map region,

an information on a start position of the space bit map region is recorded in the partition descriptor information region,

the start position information includes a value at which a predetermined region of a plurality of memory blocks larger than the first size included in the partition is secured prior to a starting end of the space bit map region, and

the region secured prior to the starting end of the space bit map region is in a state where data is physically erased.

18. (Previously Presented) An information recording format for a non-volatile semiconductor recording medium in recording information according to a recording format of FAT file system, wherein

a user data region comprising a plurality of clusters and a file allocation table region are included in the FAT file system;

an information on a state of each cluster in the user data region is recorded in the file allocation table region;

the file allocation table region indicates that a continuous series of at least three clusters each has a state value indicating a cluster is not to be written to because it is a defective cluster, a reserved cluster, or an already-used cluster; and

a region of the user data region corresponding to the continuous series of at least three clusters is physically erased.